

CLINTON TOWNSHIP

Chippewa Valley girls soccer honored by the MAC

C AND G NEWSPAPER

By Mark Vest✉



Clinton Township Chippewa Valley Coach Gerry Haggarty speaks with his team during a break in the action. Haggarty was named the Macomb Area Conference Blue Division Coach of the Year. (Photo by Sarah Purlee)

🕒 Posted June 26, 2017



Maddie Medalle, right, plays during a Division 1 district game against Anchor Bay High this past season. Medalle was selected as the Macomb Area Conference Blue Division MVP. (Photo by Sarah Purlee)

CLINTON TOWNSHIP — Clinton Township Chippewa Valley girls soccer followed up the program's most successful regular season in years with some postseason accolades.

Chippewa had five Macomb Area Conference Blue Division All-Conference selections in Maddie Medalle, Kerrigan Johnson, Alexa Barczak, Cayla Capron and Katerina Demo.

Medalle was chosen as the MAC Blue MVP, with her coach, Gerry Haggarty, being named Coach of the Year.

Chippewa also earned the MAC Blue Sportsmanship Award.

All that comes after the Big Reds finished the season at 15-2-2 overall and won a MAC Blue championship with an 11-1 record.

Chippewa's 15 victories were the most the program has had since 2009. The program has struggled in recent seasons, finishing last in the MAC White in both 2015 and 2016.

"It was a good year to bounce back," Haggarty said. "Maddie had a lot to do with this. She scored 31 goals. But our defense was really good. ... The kids made me look good."

Along with being part of her team's success, Medalle came away from the season with the MAC Blue's highest individual honor.

"It was very special to me," she said of her MVP selection. "I wasn't really expecting it. ... I was very excited to get it."

Haggarty was pleased that Capron, Alyssa Ziemianski, Lia Lomedico, Lauren Barczak and Demo, who were Chippewa's senior representatives, got to experience a winning season.

"It was a good way for the seniors to go out," Haggarty said. "At least they had one good year and had fun doing it."

Although Haggarty was pleased to come away from the season with a division championship, the MAC Blue is not where he wants the program to be. Chippewa has historically competed in the White and Red, and Haggarty wants to use the program's success as a "springboard" to an upper division.

"Our goal is to move up in two years," he said. "Our goal at the beginning of this year (was to) do as well as we can, try to win it, and then do it next year, and then we'll be eligible to move up into the White."

After enjoying the program's first winning season since 2011, Haggarty is optimistic that Chippewa will have another strong showing next year.

"I think we'll be pretty good," he said. "I think we'll be able to compete again for the Blue. I think the girls feel good about themselves. Hopefully, we can add a couple players, incoming freshmen, that'll help us."

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Mark Vest is on the sports beat at C&G Newspapers. He covers high school sports for the Fraser-Clinton Chronicle and Grosse Pointe Times. In the past couple years or so, he has also began to cover collegiate sports for schools such as the University of Detroit Mercy, Oakland University, Wayne State University, Macomb Community College and Oakland Community College. Vest has worked at C&G Newspapers since 2011 and attended Oakland University and Oakland Community College.
